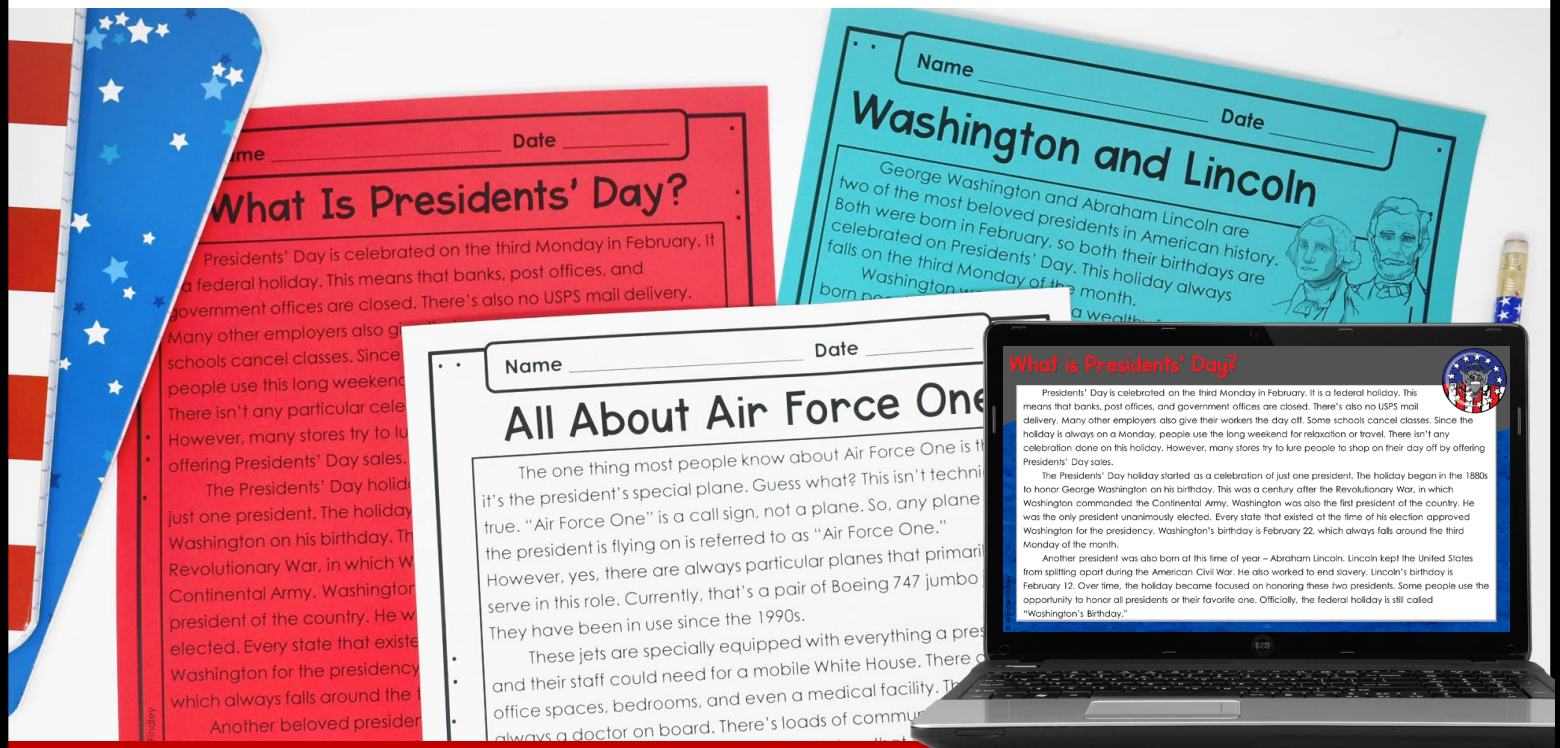


# Digital Access Links on Pages 4-5

## PRESIDENTS' DAY Reading Comprehension 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: 3 TEXTS



DIGITAL + PRINTABLE

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**DIGITAL + PRINTABLE**

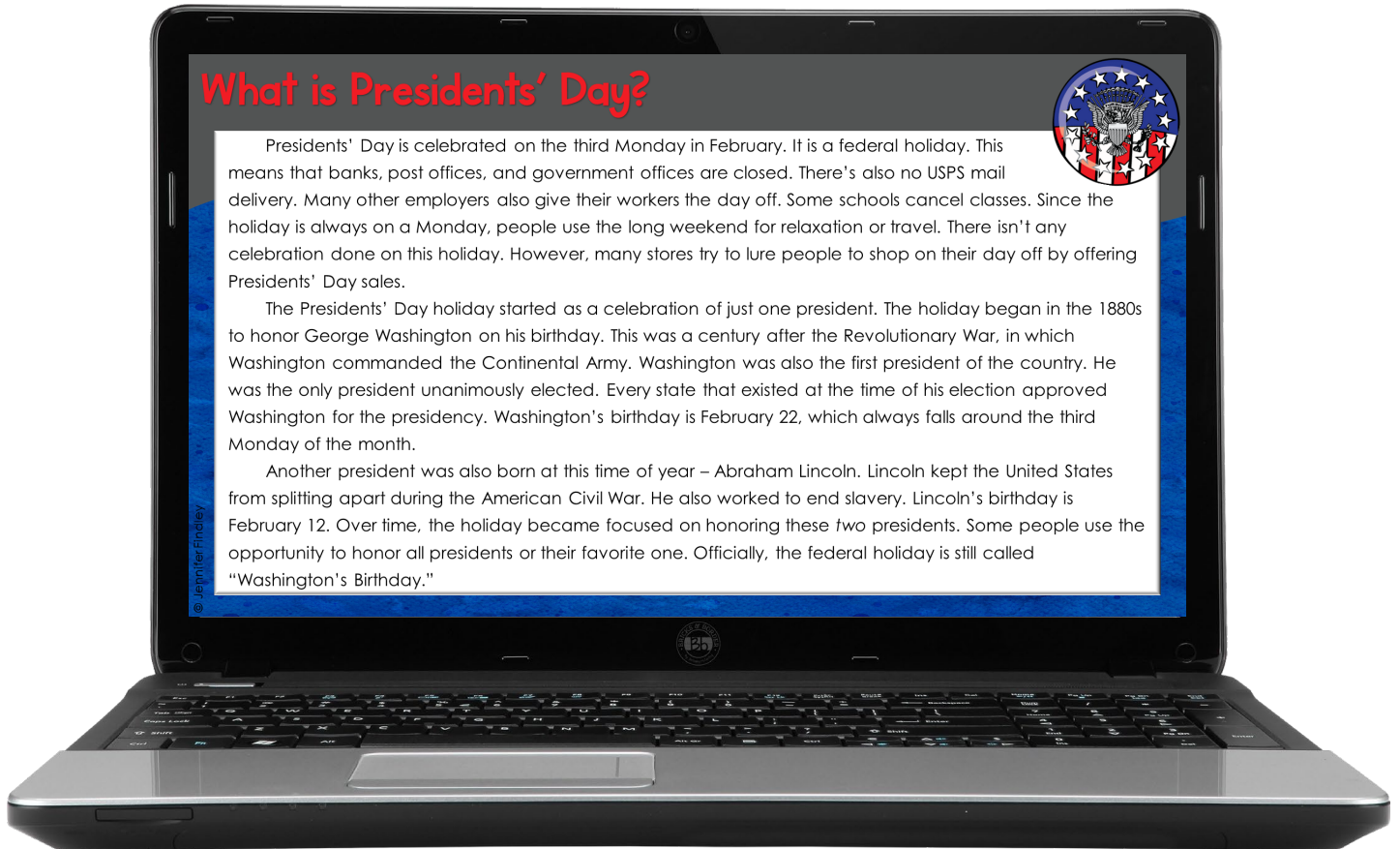
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**NONFICTION 1:**

**WHAT IS PRESIDENTS' DAY?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# What Is Presidents' Day?

Presidents' Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February. It is a federal holiday. This means that banks, post offices, and government offices are closed. There's also no USPS mail delivery. Many other employers also give their workers the day off. Some schools cancel classes. Since the holiday is always on a Monday, people use the long weekend for relaxation or travel. There isn't any celebration done on this holiday. However, many stores try to lure people to shop on their day off by offering Presidents' Day sales.

The Presidents' Day holiday started as a celebration of just one president. The holiday began in the 1880s to honor George Washington on his birthday. This was a century after the Revolutionary War, in which Washington commanded the Continental Army. Washington was also the first president of the country. He was the only president unanimously elected. Every state that existed at the time of his election approved Washington for the presidency. Washington's birthday is February 22, which always falls around the third Monday of the month.

Another president was also born at this time of year – Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln kept the United States from splitting apart during the American Civil War. He also worked to end slavery. Lincoln's birthday is February 12. Over time, the holiday became focused on honoring these two presidents. Some people use the opportunity to honor all presidents or their favorite one. Officially, the federal holiday is still called "Washington's Birthday."



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# What Is Presidents' Day?

1. According to the text, what do people often do over Presidents' Day weekend?
2. When was Presidents' Day first celebrated?
3. Name two reasons for honoring George Washington on Presidents' Day.
4. What notable accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln are mentioned in the text?





# ANSWER KEY

## What Is Presidents' Day?

1. According to the text, what do people often do over Presidents' Day weekend?

Over Presidents' Day weekend, people often take a trip, go shopping, or just take it easy.

2. When was Presidents' Day first celebrated?

Presidents' Day was first celebrated in the 1880s.

3. Name two reasons for honoring George Washington on Presidents' Day.

Two reasons for honoring George Washington on Presidents' Day include: Washington led the Continental Army, which beat the British in the Revolutionary War and led to US independence. He was also the first US president.

4. What notable accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln are mentioned in the text?

Notable accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln include: Lincoln kept the country together during the Civil War and worked to bring an end to slavery.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Context Clues



Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.

Word	Context Clues	Definition
relaxation		
lure		
honor		
commanded		
unanimously		

# ANSWER KEY

## Using Context Clues



Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.

Word	Context Clues	Definition
relaxation	Clues will vary.	the act of resting or doing enjoyable things
lure	Clues will vary.	to offer a treat or other reward in order to persuade someone to do something
honor	Clues will vary.	to show respect for someone or something
commanded	Clues will vary.	was in charge of a group of soldiers or other people
unanimously	Clues will vary.	done with everyone's agreement

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# True or False



Directions: Cut out and read each statement. Sort each card based on whether the statement is true or false.

This is <b>TRUE</b> .	This is <b>False</b> .



Presidents' Day is a federal holiday.	Parades and family gatherings are standard ways to celebrate Presidents' Day.
Mail delivery takes place on Presidents' Day.	Presidents' Day takes place on the third Monday in February.
Presidents' Day takes place on different days of the week in different years.	Government offices are closed on Presidents' Day.
Presidents' Day began for the purpose of honoring George Washington.	Presidents' Day is the official name of this federal holiday.

What Is Presidents' Day?

# ANSWER KEY

## True or False



Directions: Cut out and read each statement. Sort each card based on whether the statement is true or false.

This is <b>TRUE.</b>	This is <b>False.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presidents' Day is a federal holiday.</li><li>• Presidents' Day takes place on the third Monday in February.</li><li>• Government offices are closed on Presidents' Day.</li><li>• Presidents' Day began for the purpose of honoring George Washington.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mail delivery takes place on Presidents' Day.</li><li>• Presidents' Day takes place on different days of the week in different years.</li><li>• Parades and family gatherings are standard ways to celebrate Presidents' Day.</li><li>• Presidents' Day is the official name of this federal holiday.</li></ul>



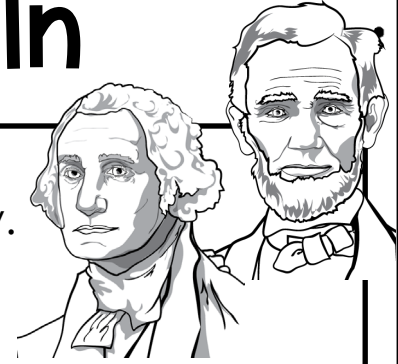
Presidents' Day is a federal holiday.	Parades and family gatherings are standard ways to celebrate Presidents' Day.
Mail delivery takes place on Presidents' Day.	Presidents' Day takes place on the third Monday in February.
Presidents' Day takes place on different days of the week in different years.	Government offices are closed on Presidents' Day.
Presidents' Day began for the purpose of honoring George Washington.	Presidents' Day is the official name of this federal holiday.

What Is Presidents' Day?

# **NONFICTION 2: WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Washington and Lincoln



George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are two of the most beloved presidents in American history. Both were born in February, so both their birthdays are celebrated on Presidents' Day. This holiday always falls on the third Monday of the month.

Washington was born into a wealthy family in Virginia. Lincoln was born poor in Kentucky. Washington was taught at home by tutors. Meanwhile, Lincoln received little formal teaching. Washington made a name for himself as a great military leader. Lincoln, however, had little military experience. He was a lawyer and politician. Despite these differences, these two men would serve in the highest office in the land.

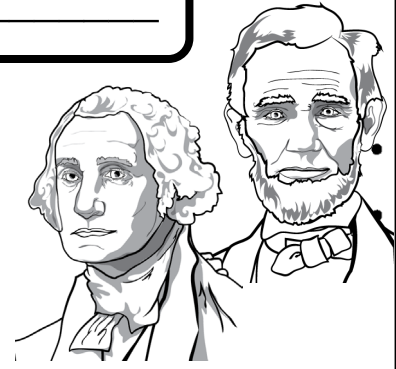
Washington and Lincoln led the country at pivotal times in its history. For Washington, that was the country's birth. He led the army that drove the British out of the American colonies. He played a part in setting up the government by helping create the US Constitution. Then, he served as the country's first president. For all these reasons, he's known as the "Father of the Nation."

Lincoln, the sixteenth president, served the country at a much different time. In the middle of the 1800s, the United States was deeply divided. Lincoln was just barely elected president. Shortly after he was elected, the Civil War broke out. Lincoln guided the country through the war. He issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed all enslaved people in the Confederate States. (Those states had broken away from the United States.) Lincoln is known as "The Great Emancipator."

Washington died of pneumonia two years after leaving office. Lincoln was assassinated in 1865. Along with the shared honor of Presidents' Day, both men have major monuments in Washington, D.C. The faces of both are carved into Mount Rushmore in South Dakota.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Washington and Lincoln

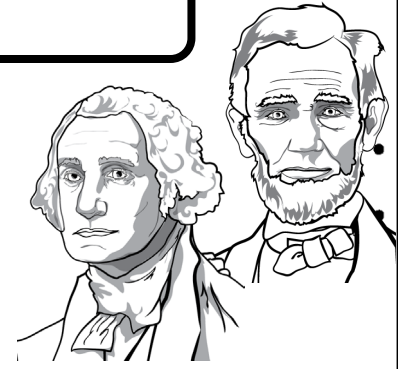


1. What role did Washington play during the birth of the United States?
2. What war happened during Lincoln's presidency?
3. What does the phrase "Confederate States" mean?
4. Why is Lincoln known as "The Great Emancipator"?



# ANSWER KEY

## Washington and Lincoln



1. What role did Washington play during the birth of the United States?

During the birth of the United States, Washington led the army that defeated the British, which resulted in US independence.

2. What war happened during Lincoln's presidency?

The Civil War happened during Lincoln's presidency.

3. What does the phrase "Confederate States" mean?

The Confederate States were those states that broke away from the United States.

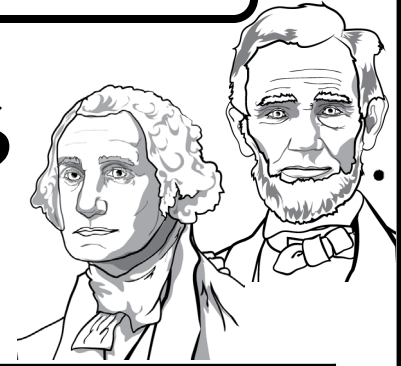
4. Why is Lincoln known as "The Great Emancipator"?

Lincoln was known as "The Great Emancipator" because Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an announcement that enslaved people in the Confederate states were free.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Context Clues

Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.

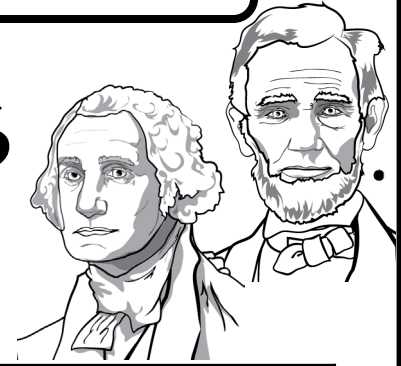


Word	Context Clues	Definition
wealthy		
formal		
pivotal		
guided		
issued		
assassinated		

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Context Clues

Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.



Word	Context Clues	Definition
wealthy	Clues will vary.	having a lot of money or owning many things
formal	Clues will vary.	following official rules
pivotal	Clues will vary.	very important
guided	Clues will vary.	led or directed
issued	Clues will vary.	announced publicly
assassinated	Clues will vary.	killed, usually for political reasons

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Text Structure

Identify the text structure used by the author, then provide text evidence that supports the text structure you chose.



## Text Structure

Three horizontal lines for writing the text structure.

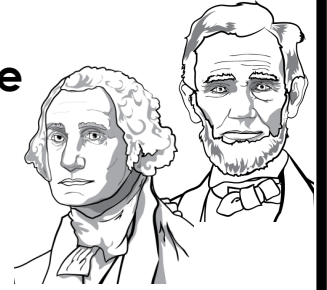
## Text Evidence

Five horizontal lines for writing text evidence.

# ANSWER KEY

## Text Structure

Identify the text structure used by the author, then provide text evidence that supports the text structure you chose.



### Text Structure

The author uses a compare-and-contrast text structure.

### Text Evidence

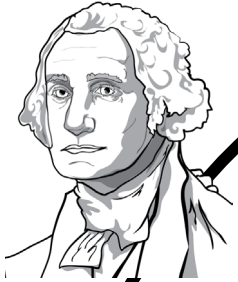
The text uses several compare-and-contrast signal words, which include *both*, *meanwhile*, *however*, *despite*, *differences*, and *different*. The text also discusses many of the same topics with regard to both presidents. These include their education, military experience, leadership at important times in history, main accomplishments as presidents, deaths, and how they are honored today. The text states how the two presidents are similar and different, which is the same as comparing and contrasting them.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Compare and Contrast

Use the organizer below to compare and contrast the two presidents.



George  
Washington

Both

Abraham  
Lincoln

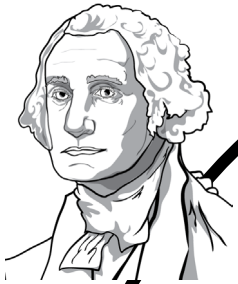


Washington and Lincoln

# ANSWER KEY

## Compare and Contrast

Use the organizer below to compare and contrast the two presidents.



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln

Both

- Born in Virginia
- Received an education at home with the help of tutors
- Helped create the U.S. Constitution
- Born into a wealthy family
- Played an important role in the U.S. Revolutionary War
- Known as a great military leader before becoming president
- Died of pneumonia

- Former President of the United States
- Beloved president
- Face is carved into Mount Rushmore
- Honored on Presidents' Day
- Led the U.S. during an important time in history
- Honored with an important monument in Washington, D.C.

- Born in Kentucky
- Born into a poor family
- Played an important role during the Civil War
- Did not have much military experience
- Assassinated
- Helped bring an end to slavery
- Did not receive much formal education
- Was a lawyer and politician before becoming president



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Compare and Contrast

Use the statements below to compare and contrast George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.



Former President of the United States	Born in Virginia	Born in Kentucky
Born into a poor family	Received an education at home with the help of tutors	Beloved president
Helped create the U.S. Constitution	Face is carved into Mount Rushmore	Honored on Presidents' Day
Born into a wealthy family	Played an important role during the Civil War	Did not have much military experience
Led the U.S. during an important time in history	Assassinated	Honored with an important monument in Washington, D.C.
Helped bring an end to slavery	Did not receive much formal teaching	Played an important role in the U.S. Revolutionary War
Was a lawyer and politician before becoming president	Known as a great military leader before becoming president	Died of pneumonia

**NONFICTION 3:**

**ALL ABOUT AIR FORCE ONE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

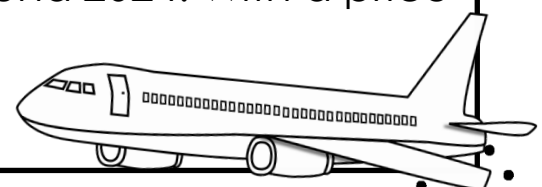
# All About Air Force One

The one thing most people know about Air Force One is that it's the president's special plane. Guess what? This isn't technically true. "Air Force One" is a call sign, not a plane. This means that *any* plane that the president is flying on is called "Air Force One." Yes, there are always certain planes that are used by the president. Currently, that's a pair of Boeing 747 jumbo jets. They have been in use since the 1990s.

These jets are specially equipped with everything a president and their staff could need for a mobile White House. There are office spaces, bedrooms, and even a medical facility. There's always a doctor on board. There's loads of communications and audio/visual equipment. There's a full kitchen that can serve hundreds of meals. There's room for around seventy-five people. This includes staff, press, and security personnel. All these features are spread out over three levels, filling up 4,000 square feet of space.

The call sign "Air Force One" wasn't used until Dwight Eisenhower's presidency in the 1950s. However, Eisenhower wasn't the first president to fly. That was Teddy Roosevelt. He flew on a biplane in 1910 not long after leaving office. Decades later, Franklin Delano Roosevelt became the first president to take a flight while *in* office.

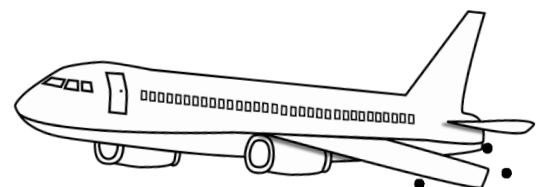
Two new planes are currently being built to serve as "Air Force One." They should be put into use around 2024. With a price tag of five billion, they're sure to have some amazing new features!



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# All About Air Force One

1. Why does the text say that “Air Force One” is a call sign rather than a plane?
2. Besides the president, who rides in “Air Force One”?
3. When was the call sign “Air Force One” first used? Who was president at the time?
4. Who was the first president to ride in a plane while in office?



# ANSWER KEY

## All About Air Force One

1. Why does the text say that “Air Force One” is a call sign rather than a plane?

“Air Force One” is any plane that is carrying the president. More than one plane serves as “Air Force One.”

2. Besides the president, who rides in “Air Force One”?

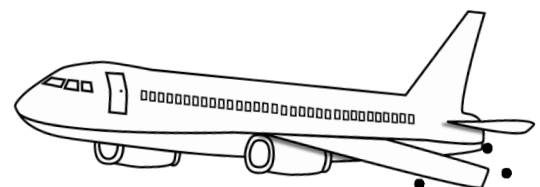
Besides the president, the president’s staff, a doctor, members of the press, and security personnel also ride on “Air Force One.”

3. When was the call sign “Air Force One” first used? Who was president at the time?

The call sign “Air Force One” was first used in the 1950s. Dwight Eisenhower was president when it was first used.

4. Who was the first president to ride in a plane while in office?

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the first president to ride in a plane while in office.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Context Clues



Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.

Word	Context Clues	Definition
equipped		
mobile		
facility		
personnel		
features		

# ANSWER KEY

## Using Context Clues



Using context clues from the text, determine the meanings of the words in the table.

Word	Context Clues	Definition
equipped	Context clues will vary.	supplied with things that are needed for a certain purpose
mobile	Context clues will vary.	able to move from one place to another
facility	Context clues will vary.	a building or area provided for a certain task or purpose
personnel	Context clues will vary.	the people who work for a certain organization or business
features	Context clues will vary.	important parts or qualities of something

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Main Idea

Write the main idea of the text, then write the main idea of each paragraph.

Main Idea of Entire Text:

Paragraph	Main Idea
1	
2	
3	
4	



# ANSWER KEY

## Main Idea

Write the main idea of the text, then write the main idea of each paragraph.

Main Idea of Entire Text:

**"Air Force One" is any plane the president flies on.**

Paragraph	Main Idea
<b>1</b>	<b>"Air Force One" is a call sign, not a specific plane.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>"Air Force One" jets have everything a president and their staff needs for a mobile White House.</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Dwight Eisenhower was the first president to fly in an "Air Force One," but earlier presidents flew in planes.</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Two new "Air Force One" planes are being built.</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Evaluating Summaries

Read each summary of the story. Explain what is wrong with each one, if anything.

<b>Incorrect Summary</b>	<b>What is wrong with the summary?</b>
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about seventy-five people on each plane. The name “Air Force One” was first used in the 1950s. Two new planes will be put into service around 2024.</p>	
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about twenty people on each plane. The name “Air Force One” was first used in the 1950s. Two new planes will be put into service around 2024.</p>	
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about seventy-five people on each plane.</p>	

# ANSWER KEY

## Evaluating Summaries

Read each summary of the story. Explain what is wrong with each one, if anything.

<b>Incorrect Summary</b>	<b>What is wrong with the summary?</b>
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about seventy-five people on each plane. The name “Air Force One” was first used in the 1950s. Two new planes will be put into service around 2024.</p>	<p><b>This summary is correct.</b></p>
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about twenty people on each plane. The name “Air Force One” was first used in the 1950s. Two new planes will be put into service around 2024.</p>	<p><b>This summary includes incorrect information about how many people the plane holds.</b></p>
<p>“Air Force One” is any plane the president flies on. These planes have everything the president and their staff needs, including office spaces, bedrooms, equipment, and a kitchen. There’s room for about seventy-five people on each plane.</p>	<p><b>This summary leaves out information from the last two paragraphs.</b></p>

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